REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing and reconsideration of the subject matter identified in caption, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with 37 C.F.R. §1.116, and in light of the remarks which follow.

Claims 9 and 10 are pending in the application.

By the above amendments, Applicants have amended Claims 9 and 10 by adding various process elements to the claims. Support for these amendments can be found at least at pages 3 and 4 and Examples 1-5 on pages 5-6 of the specification.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to their representative Martin A. Bruehs during the telephone interviews conducted on July 7, 15 and 20. In particular, Applicants thank the Examiner for agreeing that the above amendments to Claims 9 and 10 would be suitable to place the application into immediate condition for allowance. In addition, Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging that the information provided with respect to Applicants' biological deposit and the statement concerning its availability are acceptable.

Turning now to the Official Action, Claims 9 and 10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. As Applicants have now amended Claims 9 and 10 in a manner which the Examiner indicated would be acceptable to place the application into condition for allowance, and because the information provided with respect to Applicants' biological deposit and the statement concerning its availability are acceptable, Applicants submit that no further response is necessary. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdraw of the rejection.

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From the foregoing, Applicants earnestly solicit further and favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance.

If there are any questions concerning this paper or the application in general,.

Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: July 30, 2004

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